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Abstract

Each iterate generated by the Generalized Conjugate Gradient Method of Concus and Golub [1] and Widlund [3] is shown to be the best approximation to the solution from a certain affine subspace (although not from the "natural" affine Krylov subspace). This property is used to improve the error bounds given by Widlund [3] and Hageman, Luk, and Young [2].

A Note on the Generalized Conjugate Gradient Method

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1. Introduction

The Generalized Conjugate Gradient Method of Concus and Golub [1] and Widlund [3] is an iterative method for solving a system of linear equations Ax = b when the coefficient matrix A is real and has positive definite symmetric part $M = (A+A^t)/2$:

LET
$$x^{(0)}$$
 BE GIVEN AND SET $x^{(-1)} = 0$.

FOR m = 0 STEP 1 UNTIL "CONVERGENCE" DO

SOLVE
$$Mv^{(m)} = b - Ax^{(m)}$$

COMPUTE¹
$$\rho_m = (Mv^{(m)}, v^{(m)})$$

IF m = 0 THEN

SET
$$\omega_{m+1} = 1$$

ELSE

COMPUTE
$$\omega_{m+1} = \left[1 + \rho_m/(\rho_{m-1}\omega_m)\right]^{-1}$$

COMPUTE $z^{(m+1)} = z^{(m-1)} + \omega_{m+1} \left(v^{(m)} + z^{(m)} - z^{(m-1)}\right)$

Let A = M-N, whence $-N = (A-A^t)/2$ is the skew-symmetric part of A, and let $K = M^{-1}N$. Then it can be shown that the iterate $x^{(m)}$ lies in the affine Krylov subspace

$$x^{(0)} + \text{Span}\{v^{(0)}, Kv^{(0)}, K^2v^{(0)}, ..., K^{m-1}v^{(0)}\} \equiv x^{(0)} + S_m$$

and is characterized by the Galerkin condition

$$(z, Ae^{(m)}) = 0 \qquad \text{for all } z \in S_m, \tag{1.1}$$

where $e^{(m)} = x^{(m)} - x$ (see [3]). Moreover,

$$z^{(m)} = x + p_m(K)e^{(0)} (1.2)$$

where $p_m(\mu)$ is an even (odd) polynomial of degree at most m for m even (odd) and $p_m(1) = 1$ (see [3]).

In this paper, we show that $x^{(m)}$ is the best approximation to x from a certain m-dimensional affine subspace (but not from the affine Krylov subspace $x^{(0)} + S_m$) and use this property to improve the error bounds given by Widlund [3] and Hageman, Luk, and Young [2].

^{1 (}y,z) denotes the Euclidean inner-product.

Notation: $(y,z)_M$ denotes the M-inner product (My,z) and $\|z\|_M$ denotes the corresponding norm. Note that

$$(Ky,z)_M = (Ny,z) = -(y,Nz) = -(My,M^{-1}Nz) = -(y,Kz)_M$$

so that K is skew-symmetric with respect to $(\cdot,\cdot)_M$ and $(Kz,z)_M = 0$ for all z.

2. An Alternative Characterization

In this section, we show that the iterate $z^{(m)}$ generated by the Generalized Conjugate Gradient Method is the best approximation to z with respect to a certain m-dimensional affine subspace, but not with respect to the affine Krylov subspace $z^{(k)} + S_m$ (unless $z^{(m)} = z$). The cases m even (= 2k) and m odd (= 2k+1) are treated separately.

Theorem 2.1: $x^{(2k)} \in x^{(0)} + (I+K)S_{2k}$ and

$$(z, x^{(2k)} - x)_M = 0$$
 for all $z \in (I + K)S_{2k}$,

whence

$$||x^{(2k)}-x||_{M} = \min \{||y-x||_{M} | y \in x^{(0)}+(I+K)S_{2k}\}$$
.

Proof:

Since $p_{2k}(-1) = p_{2k}(1) = 1$ (recall that p_{2k} is even), $p_{2k}(\mu)$ can be written in the form

$$p_{2k}(\mu) = 1 + (1+\mu) \pi_{2k-2}(\mu) (1-\mu)$$

where $\pi_{2k-2}(\mu)$ is a polynomial of degree at most 2k-2. Therefore, by (1.2),

$$x^{(2k)} = x + e^{(0)} + (I+K) \pi_{2k-2}(K) (I-K)e^{(0)}$$

$$= x^{(0)} - (I+K) \pi_{2k-2}(K)v^{(0)}$$

$$\in x^{(0)} + (I+K)S_{2k}.$$

If $z \in (I+K)S_{2k}$, then z = (I+K)u for some $u \in S_{2k}$ and

$$(z, x^{(2k)}-x)_M = (M(I+K)u, e^{(2k)}) = (u, Ae^{(2k)}) = 0$$

by the Galerkin condition (1.1).

However, $x^{(2k)}$ is not the best approximation to x from $x^{(0)} + S_{2k}$. To see this, note that

$$\begin{aligned} (v^{(0)}, \, z^{(2k)} - z)_M &= - \left((I - K)e^{(0)}, \, e^{(2k)} \right)_M \\ &= - \left(e^{(2k)}, \, e^{(2k)} \right)_M + \left(e^{(2k)} - e^{(0)}, \, e^{(2k)} \right)_M + \left(Ke^{(0)}, \, p_{2k}(K)e^{(0)} \right)_M \, . \end{aligned}$$

By Theorem 2.1, $e^{(2k)}-e^{(0)}=x^{(2k)}-x^{(0)}\in (I+K)S_{2k}$ and the second term vanishes. Since K is skew-symmetric with respect to $(\cdot,\cdot)_M$ and p_{2k} is even, the third term also vanishes. Therefore, $v^{(0)}\in S_{2k}$ but

$$(v^{(0)}, x^{(2k)} - x)_M = -(e^{(2k)}, e^{(2k)})_M \neq 0$$

unless $x^{(2k)} = x$.

Theorem 2.2: $x^{(2k+1)} \in x^{(0)} + v^{(0)} + (I+K)S_{2k+1}$ and

$$(z, x^{(2k+1)} - x)_M = 0$$
 for all $z \in (I+K)S_{2k+1}$,

whence

$$\|x^{(2k+1)} - x\|_{M} = \min \{\|y - x\|_{M} \mid y \in x^{(0)} + v^{(0)} + (I + K)S_{2k+1}\}.$$

Proof:

Since $p_{2k+1}(1) = 1$ and $p_{2k+1}(-1) = -p_{2k+1}(1) = -1$ (recall that p_{2k+1} is odd), $p_{2k+1}(\mu)$ can be written in the form

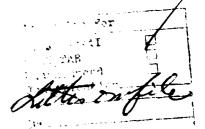
$$p_{2k+1}(\mu) = \mu + (1+\mu) \pi_{2k-1}(\mu) (1-\mu)$$

where $\pi_{2k-1}(\mu)$ is an odd polynomial of degree at most 2k-1. Therefore, by (1.2),

$$\begin{split} x^{(2k+1)} &= x + Ke^{(0)} + (I+K) \pi_{2k-1}(K) (I-K)e^{(0)} \\ &= x^{(0)} - (I-K)e^{(0)} - (I+K) \pi_{2k-1}(K)v^{(0)} \\ &= x^{(0)} + v^{(0)} - (I+K) \pi_{2k-1}(K)v^{(0)} \\ &\in x^{(0)} + v^{(0)} + (I+K)S_{2k+1} \ . \end{split}$$

If $z \in (I+K)S_{2k+1}$, then z = (I+K)u for some $u \in S_{2k+1}$ and

$$(z, z^{(2k+1)} - x)_M = (M(I+K)u, e^{(2k+1)}) = (u, Ae^{(2k+1)}) = 0$$



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by the Galerkin condition (1.1).

Again, $x^{(2k+1)}$ is not the best approximation to x from $x^{(0)} + S_{2k+1}$. To see this, note that

$$\begin{split} (v^{(0)}, \ x^{(2k+1)} - x)_M &= -((I - K)e^{(0)}, \ e^{(2k+1)})_M \\ &= (e^{(2k+1)}, \ e^{(2k+1)})_M - (e^{(2k+1)} - Ke^{(0)}, \ e^{(2k+1)})_M \\ &- (e^{(0)}, \ p_{2k+1}(K)e^{(0)})_M \ . \end{split}$$

By Theorem 2.2, $e^{(2k+1)}-Ke^{(0)}=x^{(2k+1)}-x^{(0)}-v^{(0)}\in (I+K)S_{2k}$ and the second term vanishes. Since K is skew-symmetric with respect to $(\cdot,\cdot)_M$ and p_{2k+1} is odd, the third term also vanishes. Therefore, $v^{(0)}\in S_{2k+1}$ but

$$(v^{(0)}, x^{(2k+1)} - x)_M = (e^{(2k+1)}, e^{(2k+1)})_M \neq 0$$
,

unless $x^{(2k+1)} = x$.

3. Error Bounds

In this section, we use the best approximation property of the iterates $\{x^{(m)}\}$ to prove error bounds for the Generalized Conjugate Gradient Method.

Theorem 3.1:

$$||x^{(m)}-x||_{M} \leq ||q_{m}(K)(x^{(0)}-x)||_{M}$$

for any real polynomial $q_m(\mu)$ of degree at most m satisfying $q_m(1) = 1$ and $q_m(-1) = (-1)^m$.

Proof:

Let $y = x + q_m(K)e^{(0)}$. Then it can be shown that $y \in x^{(0)} + (I+K)S_m$ if m is even (see the first part of the proof of Theorem 2.1) and that $y \in x^{(0)} + v^{(0)} + (I+K)S_m$ if m is odd (see the first part of the proof of Theorem 2.2). Therefore, using either Theorem 2.1 or Theorem 2.2,

$$||x^{(m)}-x||_{M} \le ||y-x||_{M} = ||q_{m}(K)(x^{(0)}-x)||_{M}$$
.

Let $\sigma(K)$ denote the spectrum of K. Since K is skew-symmetric with respect to $(\cdot,\cdot)_M$, it can be shown that

Re
$$\mu = 0$$
, $|Im \mu| \le ||K||_{M} = \Lambda$

for any $\mu \in \sigma(K)$, and that

$$\|q_m(K)\|_M = \max_{\mu \in \sigma(K)} |q_m(\mu)|$$

for any real polynomial $q_{m}(\mu)$.

Corollary 3.2:

$$||x^{(m)}-x||_{M} \leq \frac{2}{R(\Lambda)^{m}+|-R(\Lambda)|^{-m}}||x^{(0)}-x||_{M}$$

where
$$R(\Lambda) = \Lambda^{-1} + \sqrt{\Lambda^{-2} + 1}$$
.

Proof:

Let $q_m(\mu) = T_m(i\Lambda^{-1}\mu)/T_m(i\Lambda^{-1})$ where $T_m(z)$ is the $m^{\rm th}$ Chebyshev polynomial. Since $T_m(z)$ is even (odd) when m is even (odd), $q_m(\mu)$ is a real polynomial which satisfies the conditions of Theorem 3.1 so that

$$||x^{(m)}-x||_{M} \leq ||q_{m}(K)(x^{(0)}-x)||_{M} \leq ||q_{m}(K)||_{M} ||x^{(0)}-x||_{M}$$

But

$$\|q_m(K)\|_{M} = \max_{\mu \in \sigma(K)} \frac{|T_m(iA^{-1}\mu)|}{|T_m(iA^{-1})|} \le \frac{1}{|T_m(iA^{-1})|}$$

since $-1 \le iA^{-1}\mu \le +1$ for all $\mu \in \sigma(K)$ and $|T_m(z)| \le 1$ for $-1 \le z \le +1$. Moreover, it can be shown that

$$T_m(iA^{-1}) = \frac{i^m}{2} [R(A)^m + [-R(A)]^{-m}].$$

Therefore, since $R(\Lambda) > 1$,

$$||x^{(m)}-x||_M \le \frac{2}{R(A)^m+[-R(A)]^{-m}}||x^{(e)}-x||_M$$

Hageman, Luk, and Young [2] proved Corollary 3.2 for m even by observing that the even iterates can also be generated by applying conjugate gradient acceleration to a certain

symmetrizable "double" method. Widlund [3] proved somewhat weaker bounds for general m using a standard argument for Galerkin methods.

The best approximation property and the nesting of the subspaces $\{S_m\}$ guarantees that $\{\|e^{(2k)}\|_M\}$ and $\{\|e^{(2k+1)}\|_M\}$ are both monotone decreasing. Widlund [3] gives a direct proof. The following result shows that both sequences must converge at the same rate, contradicting the experimental results reported in [3].

Corollary 3.3:

$$\Lambda^{-1} \|x^{(m+1)} - x\|_{M} \leq \|x^{(m)} - x\|_{M} \leq \Lambda \|x^{(m-1)} - x\|_{M} \quad \text{for all } m \geq 1.$$

Proof:

It suffices to prove the right-hand inequality. Since $q_m(\mu) = \mu p_{m-1}(\mu)$ satisfies the conditions of Theorem 3.1,

$$||x^{(m)}-x||_{M} \leq ||q_{m}(K)(x^{(0)}-x)||_{M}$$

$$\leq ||K||_{M} ||p_{m-1}(K)e^{(0)}||_{M}$$

$$= \Lambda ||x^{(m-1)}-x||_{M}.$$

References

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